

# **CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM AGENDA**



**Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2009**

**at 2.00 pm**

**in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre  
Victoria Road, Hartlepool**

## **CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM:**

Councillors Aiken, Akers-Belcher, Brash, Coward, Cranney, Hall, Hargreaves, Kaiser, Laffey, Lauderdale, London, Morris, Payne, Richardson, Shaw, Simmons, Sutheran, Tumilty and Worthy

Resident Representatives: Christopher Akers-Belcher, Ronald Breward, Liz Carroll, Bob Farrow, Ted Jackson, Jean Kennedy, Evelyn Leck, Alan Lloyd, Brenda Loynes and Brian McBean

- 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**
- 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 3. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**
- 4. MINUTES**
  - 4.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2009
  - 4.2 Matters arising (maximum of 10 minutes) – Feedback sheet from last meeting attached
  - 4.3 To receive the minutes of the Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2009 (*to follow*)

5. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME and WARD ISSUES (maximum of 30 minutes)**

Rift House  
Stranton  
Burn Valley  
Foggy Furze  
Grange  
Park

6. **ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION**

6.1 Review of the Statement of Community Involvement – *Director of Regeneration and Planning Services*

7. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR INFORMATION**

7.1 Pride in Hartlepool – Presentation – *Pride in Hartlepool*  
7.2 Hartlepool LINK – *LINKs Co-ordinator*  
7.3 Play builder – *Director of Adult and Community Services*

8. **ITEMS FOR DECISION**

8.1 Minor Works Proposals April 2009 – *Neighbourhood Manager (Central)*

9. **DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum will take place at a time, date and venue to be confirmed

The next meeting of the Central Area Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum will take place at a time, date and venue to be confirmed

**WARDS**

Burn Valley  
Elwick  
Foggy Furze  
Grange  
Park  
Rift House  
Stranton

# ***CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM***

## **5 February 2009**

# ***MINUTES OF THE MEETING***



The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

<b>PRESENT:</b>
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Chair: Councillor Lilian Sutheran - Rift House Ward

Vice-Chair: Ted Jackson (Resident Representative)

Councillor Jonathan Brash	- Burn Valley Ward
Councillor Gerald Hall	- Burn Valley Ward
Councillor Carl Richardson	- Grange Ward
Councillor Christopher Simmons	- Grange Ward
Councillor Gladys Worthy	- Rift House Ward

Resident Representatives:

Liz Carroll, Evelyn Leck, Alan Lloyd, Brenda Loynes and Brian McBean.

Public: Vincent Auger, G M Harrison, G Johnson, S Johnson, D Kirkwood, Mrs D Kirkwood, R McAndrew, J Rudge.

Council Officers: Clare Clark, Neighbourhood Manager (Central)  
Jon Wright, Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager  
Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

Housing Hartlepool Representative: Lynn McPartlin

Police Representatives: Inspector Tony Green, Sergeant Brian Crawley

<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>
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Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Akers Belcher, Kaiser, Laffey, Dr Morris, Shaw and Tumilty. Also from Resident Representatives

Christopher Akers Belcher and Bob Farrow.

### 35. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

### 36. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum held on 4 December 2008 were confirmed as an accurate record.

### 37. MATTERS ARISING

**Queensberry Avenue** – Councillor Brash reported that the consultation with residents was completed and there had been divided opinion as to whether the road should become one way. The Traffic Team were now looking at other options.

**Trinity Square** – Councillor Simmons reported that the pavement had not been completed on Hart Lane and that there was flooding at the Hart Lane/Duke Street junction. The Neighbourhood Manager agreed to look into this.

**York Road Pavements** – Ray Waller stated that there were still issues with loose paving stones on York Road.

**Penrhyn Street** – Councillor Brash stated that there were still ongoing problems with delivery vans parking in Penrhyn Street. The Neighbourhood Manager agreed to liaise with the store manager.

### 38. MINUTES OF POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2009 were received.

### 39. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND WARD ISSUES

#### Rift House

**Macaulay Road** – Councillor Worthy highlighted the poor state of repair of the road between Catcote Road and Swinburne Road. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager said that this along with other roads, would be considered for repair in the next financial year. It was also highlighted that there had been a Scrutiny Investigation into the state of roads in the town.

**Macaulay Road** – Councillor Worthy also stated that cars were parking on pavements causing an obstruction. The Neighbourhood Manager agreed to look into this.

**Orwell Walk** – Councillor Hall said that he was delighted with the outcome of the planning application for Orwell Walk and thanked Rift House Ward councillors especially Councillor Akers Belcher and residents.

#### Burn Valley

**Litter** – Mr Ray McAndrew highlighted issues with litter in Carlton Street as well as the hedges beside the A689 on the entrance to the town. He thanked those responsible for the recent road sweep of Park Road.

**Old Co-op Building** – Mr Ray McAndrew stated that there were a number of posters which looked messy near the junction of Park Road/Osbourne Road. The Neighbourhood Manager agreed to look into this.

**Park Road** – Mr Ray McAndrew outlined how there was a dip in the pavement next to the Mason and Martin building which was dangerous when frozen. The

Neighbourhood Manager agreed to check this.

**Dog Control Orders** – Mr McAndrew commented on over zealous enforcement of the Orders. He also asked what the maximum fine was as notices currently stated that the maximum fine was £1000 and he thought that this fine had been changed. The Neighbourhood Manager agreed to refer this to the Environmental Action Manager.

**South Road** – Mr Ray Waller highlighted that this road had not been re-surfaced despite being informed that it would be done when the park in Thornton Street had opened, and the camber outside St Josephs Court has not yet been reduced. He was informed that it was in this year's programme of work as was Thomton Street.

**Old Co-op Building** – Mr Ray Waller thanked those concerned for ensuring that the scaffolding had been removed from this building but highlighted the need for a waste bin.

**Orb Centre** – Councillor Hall reminded those present that the Orb Centre was to re-locate to the Baptist Church on the corner of Oxford Road/Caledonian Road, but said that there would be no reduction in services.

**Belmont Gardens** – Councillor Hall stated that there was to be a consultation to see whether residents wanted the introduction of resident only parking.

**Illegal parking** – Mr Ray Waller asked that there should be more zealous enforcement of fining those who park next to dropped kerbs as this causes problems for wheelchair users.

## Grange

**Cemetery Wall, Hart Lane** – Councillor Chris Simmons highlighted that the wall appeared to be slipping and was informed that a structural engineer would look at this.

**Sherriff Street and Murray Street** – Councillor Carl Richardson reported problems with flooding on these streets. This would be looked at. He also queried whether the Authority had sufficient stocks of salt to ensure that roads in the town were gritted in the bad weather and was assured that it did.

## Stranton

**St Pauls Road** – Resident Mr Auger referred to a number of incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) which had occurred involving residents of the road and asked whether the Police were aware of this. Sgt Crawley explained that Police worked with the New Deal for Communities and the Local Authority to try and address ASB and agreed to speak to Mr Auger following the meeting.

**Dent Street and Derwent Street** – Councillor Simmons stated that problem residents were moved from street to street and the cause of the problems needed to be addressed. Resident Julie Rudge stated that a number of residents had been moved from Dent and Derwent Streets and now resided in the area of the Nursery public house but she had informed residents of Hopps Street of the conditions of their ASB Orders and advised them to ring police if these conditions were broken. She thanked the Neighbourhood Manager for her assistance in gaining the ASB Orders for the problem tenants.

**Street Cleaning** – Resident Representative Brian McBean expressed concern that during Tall Ships 2010 there

would be a 'clean corridor' in the town and the rest of the town would be left uncleaned. He highlighted a number of areas which were currently very dirty including, the shop doorway near to the Nursery public house, the Church of the Nazarene, shrubbery near to Tesco Express and the St Pauls Road/ Thomson Street area and part of Weldeck Road. The Neighbourhood Manager agreed to address this.

## **Park**

**Grass verges** - Resident Representative Brenda Loynes highlighted areas where grass verges were in need of attention. These included Saddleston Close to Hart Lane, Mounston Close to Hart Lane and around High Tunstall School. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager said that these would be re-instated when weather conditions permitted. Resident Representative Liz Carroll added that due to building work, verges in Egerton Road had also suffered but was informed that the building contractor responsible was aware that the verge needed re-instating when work was complete.

**Bus lay-by Tarnston Road** – Resident Representative Brenda Loynes highlighted that there was a lot of congestion in this area at the end of the school day. The Neighbourhood Manager said that the traffic department were currently putting together a design plan for consideration.

**Elwick Road** – Resident Representative Liz Carroll asked why the pavement on the Cricket Club side had not been tarmacked when the crossing working had been carried out and requested a written response as resident groups were concerned about this. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinator stated that this had not been part of the initial scheme.

**Ward Jackson Park** – Resident Representative Liz Carroll referred to the recent shooting of a cygnet in the park and called for additional lighting/security cameras to be installed. Sgt Crawley stated that there would be additional patrols in that area.

**Closure of Shops in Middleton Grange Shopping Centre** – Resident Representative Alan Lloyd highlighted how many shops in the town centre were closing and asked that the Authority did more to encourage retailers to stay in the shopping centre. It was pointed out that there is a 'Town Centre Management Group' where these issues are being addressed and views could be exchanged.

## **40. NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM REVIEW**

The Neighbourhood Manager presented a report on the recently completed review which had been undertaken by Hartlepool New Deal for Communities. Information had been gathered from a Viewpoint survey, questionnaires to attendees, interviews with Council officers and service providers and focus groups involving Councillors and Resident Representatives.

The report recommendations included improvements to the structure and content of the meetings (including one presentation per meeting), the establishment of a code of conduct and development of ways of bringing about greater levels of attendance and representation. A summary of the review had been circulated with the meeting papers and a final report was expected to be considered by Cabinet.

The following issues were then raised:-

**Cabinet** – It was suggested that the issue should be considered by Council rather than being considered at Cabinet.

**Evening Meetings** – No buses were available in the town after 6 pm thereby limiting attendance to some residents, although it was pointed out that those who work were unlikely to take time off to attend meetings unless there was a specific issue they were interested in.

**Low Attendance Figures** – These were mirrored at the Neighbourhood Action Plan forums despite newsletters being distributed. It was suggested that the Neighbourhood Manager could feedback the achievements of the Forum to residents' associations.

**Broadcasting of Forum** – It was suggested that one of the Forums could be broadcast on Radio Hartlepool to enable a wider audience. The Chair or Vice Chair could also be interviewed on radio to give a flavour of what the meeting is like.

**Young People** – It was agreed that young people should be encouraged to attend perhaps by visiting schools and colleges to inform them what took place at forums.

**Residents' Associations** – It was pointed out that these fed their views into the Forum via the Resident Representatives and therefore people did not feel a need to attend themselves.

**Rubber Stamping of Decisions** – It was noted that many people did not attend as it was thought that decisions had already been made and that their voices would not be heard. It should be made clear that some issues were out for consultation prior to decisions being made.

## Content of Meetings

It was noted out that since there had only been one presentation at the current meeting of the Forum there had been room to have a useful debate on the issues and recommendations raised in the review.

### 41. MINOR WORKS SCHEME UPDATE

A list of Minor Works proposals which had been approved already by the Central Forum had been circulated. The total Minor Works Budget available to the Central area at the beginning of the financial year was £89,658 and had been fully allocated by the Forum during the year. However the Hart Saxon Church car park and Masefield Road schemes would not be progressed this year and therefore £3,345 remained in the budget.

It was proposed to spend the remainder of the budget for the year as a contribution to a car parking scheme in Spenser Grove to increase car parking provision and reduce congestion. This was approved by members of the forum.

The meeting concluded at 11.30 am.

## **ACTION SHEET FOR CENTRAL FORUM**

**5 February 2009**

### **Matters Arising**

#### **Pavement not topped off on Hart Lane at Trinity Square – (Chris Simmons)**

A site visit with Yuills was undertaken in early March and we have been reassured that this will be carried out within the next couple of weeks.

#### **Pavements still loose on York Road (Ray Waller)**

A proposal to fund £100,000 of works on York Road to improve the stability and condition of paving will be taken to the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Communities for approval in late April. If funding is approved this will enable work on the worst areas between Park Road and Victoria Road to be undertaken during 2009/10.

#### **Burn Valley Wines – request to further investigate ongoing problems with delivery vans parking in Penryn Street – (Jonathan Brash)**

A meeting has been arranged with the owner of Burn Valley Wines, local residents, and HBCs Traffic Section to investigate the issues further and examine potential solutions.

### **Public question time and ward issues**

#### **RIFT HOUSE**

#### **Macaulay Road – Poor state of repair between Catcote Road and Swinburne Road – (Gladys Worthy)**

This stretch of road is included in the 2009/10 Highways Resurfacing Program and will be completed late summer/early autumn.

#### **Macaulay Road – approximately 7 cars continually parking on pavement causing obstruction – (Gladys Worthy)**

HBC Environmental Enforcement Officers have patrolled the area, door knocked those who appear to be the offenders, and advised them not to park on the grassed verges because of the damage caused. The Neighbourhood Policing Sgt has also been asked to direct PCSOs to patrol the area and address any obstructions of the footway.



## **STRANTON**

### **Carlton Street – and hedge beside A689 on entrance to town – lots of litter. (Ray Mc Andrew)**

Following the last meeting of the Forum the Central area Environmental Supervisor was asked to give Carlton Street immediate attention. This street is included in a regular schedule for cleansing which is undertaken every Wednesday. Where particular problems arise in between these dates residents are reminded to call HBCs contact centre on 523333.

De-littering of the stretch of the A689 identified was undertaken on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Park Road/Osbourne Road – lots of posters in the vicinity of the old Co-op building. (Ray Mc Andrew)**

The Central Area Cleansing Team is investigating the removal of posters on the exterior of this building. However it needs to be borne in mind that this building is privately owned, and therefore any actionable interventions by the Council will be limited. The owners consent is being sought before removal of any work is undertaken to remove posters from the building. The general issue of flyposting at this site has also been brought to the attention of HBCs Environmental Enforcement Officers who could issue fixed penalty fines in the event of catching those responsible.

### **Mason and Martin – dip in pavement outside premises on Park Road. Dangerous when icy. (Ray Mc Andrew)**

The ponding problem at this location was due to the gulley being blocked. This has now been cleansed and the issue resolved.

### **Dog Control Order notices – out of date notices displayed in town. (Ray McAndrew)**

The current fine for breach of dog orders is £80. However failure to pay an initial fine could result in a fine of up to £1000 being imposed by the courts. Notices across the town are being checked and will be replaced where they are out of date. If residents come across outdated signage they are asked to notify the Council with the exact locations through the contact centre on 523333 or by contacting the Neighbourhood Manager on 855560.

### **St Josephs Court – camber outside this not yet reduced ? (Ray Waller)**

This carriageway has now been resurfaced, and the camber reduced as much as feasibly possible to assist those who require vehicular access to and from St Joseph's Court.

**Old Co-op Building, Park Road – no waste bin outside ? (Ray Waller)**

The bin at this location was damaged and therefore removed. The bin will be replaced in the new financial year.

**Illegal parking – more zealous enforcement needed for those who park next to dropped kerbs, making it difficult for wheelchair users. (Ray Waller)**

Obstruction offences are enforced by the Police as opposed to the Council. Consequently the general issue of parking, and the obstruction of dropped kerbs, has been raised with the Neighbourhood Police Sergeant who has agreed to raise awareness amongst staff of the need to take action in such circumstances.

**GRANGE WARD**

**Cemetery Wall, Hart Lane – wall slipping. Jon Wright to get a structural engineer to check (Chris Simmons)**

HBCs Structural Engineer has visited the site and although the cemetery wall at the uppermost corner (Hart Lane/Jesmond Road) is not structurally unsafe, there is a stretch of wall 50 metres towards Raby Road that is in need of immediate attention. This has been passed to the North Area Co-ordinator who has ensured that HBCs Community Services have been made aware of this position.

**Sheriff and Murray Street – flooding. (Carl Richardson)**

As reported at a previous Forum meeting the drains in Murray Street were replaced some time ago and the road gullies are routinely cleansed. However if individual problems persist please forward the locations onto John Wright, Neighbourhood Coordinating Manager, who will ensure that any issues are given their earliest attention.

**St Pauls Road – ASB (Mr Auger)**

One of the Central Neighbourhood Development Officers has contacted Mr Auger and has arranged to meet to discuss current activities underway in the area and how Mr Auger might get involved with local groups working in the area.

**Shop doorway after Nursery Pub/Church of Nazarene/Shrubbery near Tesco Express/Welldeck Road – all in need of street cleaning (Brian McBean)**

Following the last Forum these areas have been inspected by the Environmental Supervisor and cleansed.

### **PARK WARD**

**Grass verges - Saddleston Close to Hart Lane, Mounston Close to Hart Lane and around High Tunstall School all need re-instating. High Tunstall due to parents parking when dropping pupils off as no traffic restrictions. (Brenda Loynes/Liz Carroll)**

The grass verges highlighted will be re-seeded within the coming month.

The issue in relation to parking near to High Tunstall school has been passed to HBCs Traffic Section who are now investigating the implementation of double yellow lines to restrict parking, and the installation of pedestrian barriers to prevent further damage.

**Ewick Road – outside cricket club. No tarmac when crossing put in. Written response for Liz Carroll please**

A written response to this issue has been provided by the Mayor for the local residents group in relation to tarmacing this particular grass verge.

**Ward Jackson Park – Liz Carroll asked for extra lighting/security cameras in the park following the shooting of the cygnet.**

A new lighting scheme and increased CCTV has been implemented in the Park this financial year. The Crime Prevention Officer will attend the next visual audit in the Park to assess any further security requirements.

**Concern re the number of shops closing in Middleton Grange Shopping Centre – can this be highlighted to liaison group. (Alan Lloyd)**

These concerns have been passed to the Town Centre Management Group who reassure that they are working on a number of initiatives to attract new businesses and retain existing businesses in the shopping centre.

## Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum Action Table

Forum Issue/ Date Raised	Action for Improvement	Responsibility	Estimated Cost to Forum	Comments
Flooding problem between no's 19 & 20 Saddleston close.  Date raised December 2008	New gully or re-profiling of carriageway to be undertaken to address this issue - expected completion date May 2009	Jon Wright Central Area Co-ordinator		
Ward Jackson Park – request for completion date of tarmacing of the path opposite the new zebra crossing  Date raised – December 2008	Tarmacing pathway	Mike Blair Traffic and Transportation Manager	£50,000	Due to other existing priorities the cost of tarmacing this pathway cannot at the present time be justified from existing Council budgets.
Park Ward – ongoing problems with lighting  Date raised December 2008	Improve lighting in Egerton Road – Minor Works proposal to April Fourm meeting 2009	Bob Golightly Public Lighting Engineer	£8,500 – to be sought through Minor Works 2009/10	
Blakelock Road – Kingsley corner (by Sixth Form) becoming hazardous	Double yellow lining to be implemented – May 2009	Peter Frost Traffic Manager		
Park Road/Osborne Road junction – request for pedestrian crossing.  Date raised December 2008	Investigate feasibility of installing crossing	Peter Frost Traffic Manager		Initial surveys highlight the need for some form of crossing. A meeting is to take place with Middlesbrough Traffic Signals Team. If feasibility is established consultation will need to be carried out, and potential

			funding sources identified to implement the scheme
Burn Valley wines – request for action re continued use of Penryn Street as loading area	A meeting is being arranged with the owner of Burn Valley Wines, HBCs Traffic section, and local residents to investigate the issues further and potential solutions.	Jon Wright Central Area Co-ordinator	
Duke Street Supporters Club – pavement  Date raised – December 2008	Reconstruction of footway included in highways scheduled work programme 2009/10 – awaiting Portfolio Holder approval – if approved anticipated completion date May 2009	Jon Wright Central Area Co-ordinator	
New Trinity Square. Hart Lane – dangerous pavement  Date raised - December 2008	To be completed by developers March 2009	Jon Wright Central Area Co-ordinator	
Request for lay-by Dunston Road	Feasibility to be investigated, costs to be established, and funding to be sought to implement scheme. If feasible aim to implement scheme 2009/10	Mike Blair Traffic and Transportation Manager	I

**WARDS**

Burn Valley  
Elwick  
Foggy Furze  
Grange  
Park  
Rift House  
Stranton

***CENTRAL POLICE &  
COMMUNITY SAFETY  
CONSULTATIVE FORUM***

**12 March 2009**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**



The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

**PRESENT:**

Chair:	Councillor Lilian Sutheran	- Rift House Ward
Members	Councillor Martyn Aiken	- Foggy Furze Ward
	Councillor Jonathan Brash	- Burn Valley Ward
	Councillor Gerald Hall	- Burn Valley Ward
	Councillor Pauline Laffey	- Park Ward
	Councillor Frances London	- Foggy Furze Ward
	Councillor Carl Richardson	- Grange Ward
	Councillor Jane Shaw	- Stranton Ward
	Councillor Christopher Simmons	- Grange Ward
	Councillor Victor Tumilty	- Grange Ward

**Resident Representatives:**

Liz Carroll, Ted Jackson, Brenda Loynes and Brian McBean.

**Residents:** G M Harrison, G & S Johnson, D Loynes, M E Lumley, Julie Rudge, Mrs Thorburn, Ray Waller

**Council Officers:**

Sally Forth, Antisocial Behaviour Co-ordinator  
Clare Clark, Neighbourhood Manager, (Central)  
Jon Wright, Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager  
Irene Cross, Neighbourhood Development Officer (Central)  
Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

**Police Representatives:** Inspector Tony Green, Sgt Chris Dawber, Sgt Dave Halliday, PCSO Mark Say

**Fire Brigade Representative:** Stuart Simpson

**Housing Hartlepool Representative:** Libby Griffiths

#### 47. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Chair Councillor Lillian Sutheran welcomed residents, Councillors, Resident Representatives and Officers.

#### 48. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Kaiser, Morris and Worthy and Resident Representatives Evelyn Leck and Bob Farrow.

#### 49. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 JANUARY 2009

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record.

#### 50. MATTERS ARISING

**Policing Pledge** - Resident Representative Brian McBean asked what had been done to spread the word regarding the Policing Pledge and was informed that it was not planned to advertise it until appropriate systems in the Police Communications Centre had been put in place.

**Cycling on Footpaths** – Councillor Chris Simmons thanked officers for following up this issue.

**Good Tenants Scheme** – Resident Julie Rudge said that the Tenant Referencing Officer had attended a residents meeting about this.

#### 51. UPDATE FROM POLICE

Inspector Tony Green updated the Forum with regard to crime and performance figures for the District for the period December 2008 – February 2009. All

categories of crime had shown a decrease except for vehicle crime and robbery. He referred to Operations which had been carried out in the district including ones to tackle antisocial behaviour (ASB) in the central area. Arrests had been made for breach of ASBOs.

**Burglary Detection** - Councillor Carl Richardson asked whether the detection rate for burglaries had increased and was informed that it was currently around 50%. Inspector Green stated that there had been 26 burglaries in the district the previous month which was a huge decrease compared with previous years when monthly figures were approximately 250.

**Dent Street** - Resident Julie Rudge thanked officers for action taken in the Dent Street area but said that there was still some breach of ASBOs. She asked whether the camera located in Lowthian Road could be utilised to capture this.

#### 52. UPDATE FROM FIRE BRIGADE

Cleveland Fire and Rescue representative Stuart Simpson outlined the figures for fires in January and February 2009.

He outlined safety measures including a 'flat box' which was placed over residents' letter boxes as a measure to combat deliberate fires.

He also referred to a query from the last meeting regarding the Regional Control Centre and confirmed that the building was behind schedule. He added that the building was currently being utilised for staff training.

**Deliberate Fires** - Councillor Ged Hall stated that he had heard rumours that there had recently been a spate of fires in

the town and was informed that this was likely to refer to a number of deliberate fires at the Steetley site.

**Health Issues** - Councillor Ged Hall also mentioned how fire fighters were in a position to find out resident's health problems whilst visiting their homes. Stuart Simpson agreed with this and referred to packs which were distributed to those who smoked in bed as a safety precaution.

### 53. UPDATE FROM ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR UNIT

The Antisocial Behaviour Unit Co-ordinator gave details of recent activity in the unit and a breakdown of where cases were occurring, what category of complains were dealt with, broken down into wards and outcomes of referrals. She referred to 8 ASBOs which had been imposed and one eviction in relation to a Housing Hartlepool tenant. Stranton Ward had had the most AS13 forms issued mainly to young people. She referred to successes with the good tenant scheme and work with the selective licensing team. She also mentioned work with partners to carry out Operation Staysafe on two occasions thus far and work with the FAST Project where there were 3 new workers to engage with and divert young people who gather on Friday nights to other organised activities.

**FAST Team** - Resident Ray Waller asked how the FAST team gained the information on where young people were gathering and was informed that the team worked with the police.

**Evictions** - Resident Representative Brian McBean asked what the town-wide figures for evictions was and was informed that there had been only the one and this was used as a last resort by the

Housing Hartlepool team who would support and try and get problem tenants to change their behaviour. Eviction was a last resort.

**CRASBO** - It was clarified that a CRASBO was a criminal ASBO which could only be actioned by Police.

**Good Tenant Scheme** - Resident Julie Rudge asked whether private sector landlords in Hartlepool who were part of the selective licensing scheme had to use the good tenant scheme and was informed that landlords could not be forced to use this but were encouraged to do so. Councillor Ged Hall said that he welcomed the introduction of selective licensing.

### 54. DESIGNATED PUBLIC PLACES ORDERS

Sergeant Chris Dawber gave a presentation outlining the designated public places orders which were due to come into force shortly. These would assist officers in intervening with anyone suspected of having drunk alcohol and about to commit any antisocial behaviour. Hartlepool was the only district in Cleveland to utilise these orders and maps of the affected areas were shown at the meeting.

**Park Road** - Resident Ray Waller asked why Park Road would not be the subject of such an order and was informed that there had to be evidence that such an order was necessary.

**Church Street & York Road** - Councillor Pauline Laffey queried why Church Street and York Road were not included in the Orders and was informed that the research into where the orders were needed was carried out prior to the smoking ban and this ban may have changed where locations were



necessary. However further orders could be applied for they were deemed suitable areas.

## 55. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

**Police Contacts** - Resident Representative Liz Carroll asked why details of PCSOs in the Park Ward had not been distributed to residents as promised at the Central Joint Action Group on 21 October. Inspector Green said that updated photographs had been taken and posters would be made as soon as possible. Letters would be distributed to residents by the end of that week.

**Ward Jackson Park** - Resident Representative Liz Carroll also referred to ASB which had occurred in Ward Jackson Park. She was informed that 4 youths had received reprimands and final warnings in relation to this.

**High Tunstall School Traffic Congestion** - Resident Representative Ted Jackson referred to congestion at school leaving time in the High Tunstall area and was informed that this was a town-wide problem but officers would endeavour to ensure that there was a police presence where practicable. Resident Ray Waller agreed that other schools were as busy, if not busier than High Tunstall. It was suggested that roads should be widened, although acknowledged that there were not enough funds to do this.

**Ringmaster** - Resident Mr Johnson stated that he had not received a message via the Ringmaster system for some time and was informed that messages were only sent to residents who may be affected by a particular problem.

**Police Helicopter** - Councillor Victor Tumilty informed the meeting that Cleveland Police would have its own helicopter from 1 April 2009 and a new one was to be purchased in 2012.

**Signage** - Resident Mrs Thorburn asked whether 'No ball games' signage could be erected in the area of Saddleston Close and was informed that these signs could not be enforced therefore they would not be put there.

**Saddleston Close** - Resident Representative Brenda Loynes referred to an incident of ASB which had occurred in Saddleston Close when police had not attended immediately. Inspector Green apologised for the delay but Officers were busier on a Friday evening than other nights. He offered to visit the victim.

**High Tunstall School Pupils** - Resident Representative Brenda Loynes informed the meeting that she was to visit High Tunstall School to point out the effects of ASB to pupils.

**Sydenham Road** - Councillor Martyn Aiken referred to a manhole cover being removed in Sydenham Road and was informed that this would be passed to the Environmental Action Team.

The meeting concluded at 11.15 am.

**Report of:** Director of Regeneration and Planning Services

**Subject:** REVIEW OF THE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

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**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform and seek feedback from the Forum on progress on the revision of the Statement of Community Involvement.

**1. BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 In February 2006 the Forum received a presentation and report on the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). This document sets out how and when the Council will consult the community during the preparation of new planning policy documents and in the consideration of planning applications.
- 2.2 The Borough Council considered all comments made at the time and in October 2006 the first Hartlepool SCI was published.
- 2.3 The 2006 SCI is now being updated due to changes in Central Government guidance and general changes or updates in relation to work within Hartlepool Borough Council and its partners.

**3 THE NEXT STEPS**

- 3.1 The draft review of the SCI has been prepared and will be consulted on for a two month period.
- 3.2 During the consultation period a permanent display will be located within the central library. The display will be manned at various stages throughout the consultation period, information relating to times when the display will be manned are provided on the information sheet, internet or directly from Planning Policy staff on (01429 284308).
- 3.3 The aim of the consultation process is to involve as many people as possible in the shaping of this document so that it is easy to use and understand and is a useful document for all who wish to be involved in shaping the future of Hartlepool.
- 3.4 All representations put forward within this two month period will be considered, and amendments to the draft will be made accordingly. Planning Policy officers will be available to attend any meetings at community groups

to explain the SCI and how to get involved in planning Hartlepool. For further information regarding the SCI please ring 01429 284308 or e mail [planning.policy@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@hartlepool.gov.uk).

#### **4 RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 That the report be noted and that interested parties be encouraged to submit any representations during this two month consultation period.

## HARTLEPOOL LINK

### Introduction:

Hartlepool LINK is a network of local people and organisations, funded by Government and supported by Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency (the independent host organisation) to promote and support the involvement of people in commissioning, provision and scrutiny of local health and social care services. Every LINK in the country has the same powers and responsibilities but it is the individual LINK that decides what will work best in their area.

The role of Hartlepool LINK is to:

- Give everyone the opportunity to say what they think about their local health and social care services in terms of what is working well and what is not so good.
- Give people an opportunity to monitor and review how services are both planned and delivered.
- Provide feedback on what people have said about services, so that improvements can be made.

### **The Way Forward:**

Hartlepool LINK has a range of methods available to enable them how to say how local services could improve:

- Make reports and recommendations to commissioners and receive a reply within a set period of time.
- Ask commissioners for information and receive a reply within a set period of time.
- Enter certain Health and Social Care premises to observe the nature and quality of services.
- Refer issues to Overview and Scrutiny committees and receive a response.

### **Work with Commissioners:**

Hartlepool LINK has been created through the introduction of legislation (Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007). It has powers to hold Health and Social Care service providers to account. The same legislation puts a greater obligation on providers and commissioners to consult with the public about services. It is envisaged that the LINK will be looked upon as one of the main ways of ensuring people are involved in making decisions about services.

Hartlepool LINK will provide commissioners with a first point of contact for involvement and engagement. The LINK will be a pool of local knowledge, service users and expertise, which will assist commissioners assess the needs of local populations. Involving the public through consultation with Hartlepool LINK will help commissioners take decisions that best reflect the public's need.

**Enter and View:**

To enable Hartlepool LINK to gather information they need about services, there will be times when it will be appropriate for them to see and hear, for themselves, how services are provided. The Government has introduced duties on certain commissioners and Health & Social Care services to allow authorised representatives of Hartlepool LINK to enter premises that providers own or control, to observe the nature and quality of services.

**Should you require any further information, help or advice regarding HARTLEPOOL LINK please contact:**

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**Report of:** Director of Adult and Community Services

**Subject:** PLAY BUILDER

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**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform and seek feedback from the Forum on the development of the Play Builder project.

**2. BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 Following The Fair Play Survey to support the creation of the National Play Strategy part of the Governments Children Plan it was recognised that funding was required to improve play spaces for young people aged 8-13 years old. To ensure that the improvement of play is recognised Government has introduced a new National Indicator NI 199, which comes into force April 2009 and evaluates children's satisfaction within play facilities.
- 2.2 The Government, through The Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) have committed £235 million to improve outdoor play facilities over 3 years started in 2008.
- 2.3 All top tier Authorities are or have received Pathfinder or Play Builder money, in Hartlepool's case, this is £1,129,958 million of Play Builder money.
- 2.4 Play England have been appointed by DCSF to support Local Authorities through this process.

**3. THE NEXT STEPS**

- 3.1 The Play Builder funding for Hartlepool starts on 1st April 2009 and finishes in April 2011.
- 3.2 There has to be 11 significantly improved or new play spaces completed by April 2010 and another 11 by 2011.
- 3.3 The allocated funding has to be spent within each financial year and DCSF will not allow for any under spend to be carried forward, spend it all or lose it.
- 3.4 A final Project Plan has to be submitted to DCSF by the end of March 2009, to ensure that HBC receives the funding.

- 3.5 We need the help and assistance of local residents, communities, children and young people to get this right so that play spaces of real value to the community and young people are put in place.
- 3.6 We need input from all to make this a dynamic and inspired project, delivering play spaces that are wanted and that will be used.
- 3.7 The Play Builder fund forces us to question what has gone before and to reevaluate it.

#### **4. HBC's PROPOSED PLAY SPACES FOR YEAR 1 OF THE PLAY BUILDER PROGRAM**

- 4.1 These are the proposed sites that have been put forward to DCSF for consideration in year 1, with year 2 developments open to further discussion and consultation.
- 4.2 Play Space
  - (i) Jutland Road
  - (ii) Oxford Road
  - (iii) King George Playing Fields
  - (iv) King Oswy Drive
  - (v) Town Moor
  - (vi) Greatham
  - (vii) Lynnfield School
  - (viii) Owton Manor
  - (ix) Burbank
  - (x) Clavering
  - (xi) Burn Valley Garden - Rock Garden 1
- 4.3 The lead officer for this project is Chris Wenlock, Parks and Countryside Manager.

#### **5. RECOMMENDATION**

- 5.1 That the report is noted and that interested parties are encouraged to submit any representations in relation to years One or Two of this project.

**Report of: Neighbourhood Manager (Central)**

**Subject: MINOR WORKS PROPOSALS APRIL 2009**

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## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To consider improvement schemes for potential funding from the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum Minor Works Budget.

## **2.0 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Forum has been delegated a total Minor Works Budget of £87,000 for the financial year 2009/2010. This includes an allocation of £20,000 from highways budgets to address specific highways issues raised by the Forum in the Central Area, and a further £15,000 to address the common issue of the conversion of grass verges to hard standing.

**Total Budget: £87,000**

- 2.2 As in previous years the framework when considering proposed schemes is as follows:-

- (i) Outline schemes proposed by Members, Residents, Resident Representatives, or Officers.
- (ii) The Chair and Vice Chair of the Neighbourhood Consultative Forum to assess the proposal, and where appropriate instruct Officers to cost the works and report to the Forum.
- (iii) Reports to the Forum will include estimated costs, alternative options where appropriate, residents' views, and any other related information.

## **3.0 PROPOSALS**

- 3.1 A number of schemes are detailed below to address concerns raised by Elected Members, Residents' Representatives, and residents in the Central Forum area.

### **(i) PARK WARD**

#### Egerton Road Lighting

Poor lighting in Park Ward has been identified by Ward Councillors and resident representatives as a problem. The Borough Councils Street Lighting Engineer has also confirmed that lighting in parts of this Ward is in need of improvement. Following a survey undertaken by the Street Lighting Engineer that included an assessment of lighting levels, and the condition of existing



columns, Egerton Road has been identified as the most in need of improvement in this area. This proposal therefore involves the replacement of existing columns with 6 metre high steel columns and new lanterns in the Egerton Road area of Park Ward. The total estimated cost of the scheme is £11,500 and the Forum is requested to contribute £8,500 from its Minor Works budget to meet the cost of the scheme.

**Total Cost: £11,500**

**Total cost to Forum: £8,500**

## **(ii) GRANGE WARD**

### Eltringham Road

Following problems with criminal damage and anti-social behaviour residents and Ward Members have requested that a small piece of the land at the junction of Eltringham Road and Clifton Avenue be developed as a garden area that can be available for use by the local community. The scheme will involve the installation of wall toppings and a gate, together with a small area of soft landscaping. The Forum is requested to meet the total cost of this scheme, which is estimated at £3,500

**Total cost £3,500**

**Total cost to Forum £3,500**

## **(iii) RIFT HOUSE WARD**

### Waverly Terrace Allotment Community Garden

In 2008/09 the Rift House East Residents Association were successful in obtaining funding to enhance security around a piece of allotment land that they aim to develop as a community garden. To assist in further progressing and developing the community garden residents and Ward Members are requesting a contribution from the Minor Works budget to assist with paving and planting in the garden. The Forum is requested to make a contribution of £2,000 towards this scheme.

**Total cost £2,000**

**Total cost to Forum £2,000**

## **(iii) CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA SCHEMES**

### Tactile Crossings

The Forum is asked to consider the request to continue its annual support of the dropped crossing programme with a £3,500 contribution to schemes in the Central Neighbourhood area.

**Total cost £3,500**

**Total cost to Forum £3,500**

Pride in Hartlepool

The Forum is asked to consider the request to continue its annual support of the Pride in Hartlepool project by contributing £5,000 to schemes in the Central Neighbourhood area.

**Total cost £5,000**

**Total cost to Forum £5,000**

**4.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 Members are asked to recommend approval of the above expenditure to the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Communities.

Total cost of proposed schemes	<b>£22,500</b>
Total Fund available	<b>£87,000</b>
Total Fund remaining	<b>£64,500</b>